
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY.



REPORT OF INSTITUTION

FOR THE

Education of the Blind.

1879.

Yeoman Office--E. H. PORTER, Public Printer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY),

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 1879.

PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

FRANKFORT, KY.:
PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.
E. H. PORTER, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1879.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, November 10, 1879.

To His Excellency LUKE P. BLACKBURN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :

HONORED SIR: I have the honor to submit to your Excellency, in accordance with the unanimous direction of the Board of Trustees, the Annual Report of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind. The members of the Board, in giving their cordial indorsement to the Report, speak from personal knowledge. I cheerfully bear testimony to their faithful performance of duty, and that they know very thoroughly every department of the Institution. No bill whatever can be paid except by the action of the Board, and at each monthly meeting of the Board every bill is thoroughly scrutinized before any action is taken. The liberality of Kentucky toward this one of her defective classes is as effectually guarded as it is possible for it to be. Each member of the Board feels that this is a sacred fund, devoted to the welfare of the Blind, and every dollar is scrupulously expended only in their behalf.

The heart of philanthropists everywhere will rejoice to know that this beneficent Institution of Kentucky's wise and noble care for this "defective class" is in a highly flourishing condition. At no time in its entire history has it been in as prosperous condition as it is now. Under the able and masterly superintendence of Mr. Huntoon, its educational facilities are now ample and abundant, and they are managed with consummate ability. The duties of the Matron are discharged so efficiently that their performance merits and commands our entire approbation. And in full accord with these important trusts, we now have a corps of teachers, who find their fullest enjoyment in faithfully performing the duties of their position with skill and fidelity; in attending to their own important trusts; in letting all other things alone. In this way they have won our esteem and confidence; by these means they have promoted harmony, peace, and contentment. The good effects of this course are seen in the studious deportment of the pupils, and in their advancement in useful knowledge. There are pupils in

this school, both male and female, who would be ornaments to any school in the land, in their studies, and in beauty of deportment.

We take pleasure in commending this Educational Institution to the care and wisdom of the State authorities.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, yours,

T. S. BELL, President

Of the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind.

OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

BOARD OF VISITORS.

DR. T. S. BELL, PRESIDENT,
HON. WM. F. BULLOCK,
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SEAMSTRESS.

MISS SUSAN SATTERTHWAITE.

MUSIC READER.

ROSA PLATO.

ASSISTANT PUPILS.

CHARLES FREDERICK,
NANNIE P. BROWN,
NEPPIE CONWAY,
BARBARA McKINNEY.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind:

GENTLEMEN: The number of pupils that have received instruction in the past year is eighty-five, whose names and residences are herewith given:

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
John Allen,	Madison county.
James Antle,	Louisville.
Charles Baron,	Louisville.
John William Baxter,	Greenup county.
John Beckman,	Louisville.
Matthew Blute,	Covington.
Thomas H. Boggs,	Lewis county.
Charles Bohanon,	Louisville.
Patrick Boston,	Metcalfe county.
Harrison Branch,	Henderson county.
Charles Brown,	Cloverport.
Nannie P. Brown,	Warsaw.
Almorah Bryant,	Jefferson county.
Robert Caldwell,	Mayslick.
Margaret Carpenter,	Princeton.
Etta Catlett,	Christian county.
William Clark,	Louisville.
Clarence Coffin,	Louisville.
Neppie Conway,	Versailles.
Edward Cornell,	Louisville.
Josiah Cupples,	Falmouth.
Emma Curran,	Louisville.
Benjamin M. Day,	Hardin county.
Molly Defenbaugh,	Louisville.
Frank Dollins,	Barren county.
Gertrude Drescher,	Louisville.
John Ernst,	Louisville.
John Etheredge,	Louisville.
Anna Fahy,	Pulaski county.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Winnie Fallaher,	Louisville.
Jeannie Fitzpatrick,	Horse Cave.
Joseph S Franklin,	Hickman county.
Robert Fox,	Louisville.
Charles Frederick,	Louisville.
John Gannon,	Louisville.
Sophronia Gibbons;	Clinton county.
Lawrence Hausman,	Newport.
William Heiser,	Newport.
Edward Hess,	Louisville.
Fanny Hugle,	Trimble county.
Josie Kearns,	Jefferson county.
Anna Bell Kendall,	Louisville.
Mary Landis,	Lexington.
Nora Lillis,	Frankfort.
John Long,	Louisville.
Jerrold Loyd,	Louisville.
Daniel McCue,	Louisville.
Thomas McGavie,	Louisville.
Barbara McKinney,	Crab Orchard.
Thomas Meddis,	Cloverport.
George Miller,	Calhoun.
Flora Moore,	Whitley county.
Noah Morehead,	Webster county.
Elijah Morgan,	Woodford county.
James Murray,	Louisville.
Daniel Jackson Osteen,	Christian county.
Alice Parsons,	Louisville.
Delia Patton,	Ohio county.
William Perkins,	Owensboro.
Olivia Powers,	Henry county.
Charles Purdy,	Daviess county.
Eva Riggs,	Kenton county.
Rebecca Roberts,	Lexington.
Max Rushing,	Caldwell county.
Georgia Sale,	Louisville.
Louis Schafer,	Louisville.
Elise Selke,	Louisville.
William Settle,	Barren county.
James Shacklett,	Hardin county.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Nimrod Shepherd,	Clinton county.
Beverly Smith,	Crittenden county.
Edith Smith,	Louisville.
James Stephens,	Wayne county.
Fred. Telkamer,	Louisville.
Emile Trebing,	Louisville.
Jesse Vanmeter,	Fayette county.
Johanna Varble,	Oldham county
Agatha Weaver,	Lewis county.
Jane Weaver,	Lewis county.
Naomi Wells,	Mercer county.
Nannie Wems,	Jefferson county.
William Whelan,	Louisville.
James Whitty,	Louisville.
Joseph Williams,	Henderson county.
Ola Wood,	Jefferson county.

The past year has been marked by earnest work and harmony among all connected with the Institution, and, as a consequence, commendable progress has been made by the pupils.

Eighteen of the pupils finished their course of instruction last year, and twelve of these are maintaining themselves. Owing to this unusually large number leaving at once, the school has opened with but sixty-two pupils, though it is probable that this number will be increased during the year.

In our State, as in all the other States of the Union, there are many parents who do not send their blind children to school. The parents are often ignorant of the existence of the school, or ignorant of its character. That it is a free boarding-school of the highest class, supplied with the best attainable apparatus for teaching the blind, and teachers skilled in their work, maintained by the State, as a part of her system of education, all under the management of a Board of Trustees, selected by the Governor for their wisdom and ability, seems to be a fact hard to establish in the minds of many. Not a year passes but application is made for the treatment of diseased eyes, or for the maintenance of some adult blind pauper. The idea of educating blind children seems to many so inconceivable, that in their minds the design of an Institution for the Blind must be either that of a hospital, or of an asylum. The result is, that not twenty-five per cent. of the blind children of the country receive any education.

From positive knowledge received from our pupils concerning blind children known to them, whose parents, for various reasons, refuse to send them to school, and reckoning that there must be many more of whom we are ignorant, it is probable that there are two hundred blind children in the State growing up without an education. How to reach the parents of these children thus growing up in a double night of darkness and ignorance is a difficult problem, but its solution is most important to the welfare of the blind.

The purpose of the State in founding the school was to give to the blind child as good an education as it offered to the seeing child, and, in addition, teach it a trade by which its self-support could be insured. Though the difficulties in the way have been great, the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind is doing work that will compare favorably with that of any public school in the State. The blind are taught to read, and write, and cipher. Geography, history, grammar, physiology, natural history and philosophy, algebra, geometry, in fact, all the branches usually taught to the seeing, are taught to the blind. In addition to this, special pains are taken to bestow a most thorough musical education upon those who possess decided talent in this direction, because it is in the practice of music as an art that the blind can best compete with the seeing. The boys receive instruction from a blind teacher in broom-making, mattress-making, and the various methods of cane-seating chairs. The girls are taught how to sew and knit by hand, how to mend and make their own garments, and the use of the sewing and knitting machines.

Destitute pupils, upon the certificate of the Judge of the county from which they come, will be provided with clothing.

The school session begins on the first Monday of September, and continues till the middle of June. It is of great importance that the pupils should be present on the first day. The School is so organized that the regular work begins promptly at eight o'clock in the morning of the first day; and we have never yet discovered a single blind child so gifted as to afford to lose a single hour of instruction. It is not among the laggards who return two or three or four days or weeks after school begins that we look for the most promising results, or have the highest hopes for future success. The blind child necessarily progresses slower in its education than the seeing child, while it is in no respect more fond of learning; hence the greater need of its beginning its education while the mind is still in its most docile and receptive condition. A blind child whose education begins at twelve, in two years'

time is still behind the child whose education began at eight; and no blind child has a moment to lose in the work of obtaining an education. There is need of greater thoroughness, energy, and ambition on its part, and far greater patience, assiduity, energy, and devotion on the part of its teacher.

While judged by this high standard, our School is deficient in many respects, still the faithful labor of our teachers has not been in vain. We can count some bad tendencies repressed, some hopeful aims and efforts encouraged; and we can see, looking back over the whole year, that while laziness, idleness, and indifference have thwarted our work and dwarfed our hopes, that industry, perseverance, and energy have had their triumphs; and, on the whole, these last have had more influence for good than the others have had for bad. In fact, the regular routine of a well-disciplined school, its hours set apart for work and play, for meals, for bathing, for exercise, for study, for sleep, all tend to secure the healthiest condition of mind and body. Cleanliness, punctuality, obedience, and many other desirable traits of character are fostered by such training; and the blind child that comes to an Institution for the Blind uncouth, awkward, and ignorant, after a course of years of careful instruction, leaves it an altered being.

It is a part of the plan of the school to preserve unbroken all the home ties that ought to exist between the child and its home. It is for this reason, especially desirable, that each pupil should spend its vacation at home. The child's whole future welfare, after leaving the Institution, may depend upon his having the confidence and acquaintance of his neighborhood, by whom his yearly progress has been marked and known, and to whom his permanent success may thus be a matter of general interest.

The charter of the Institution requires an annual summary of receipts and expenses, to be presented to you, and an enumeration of the employes of the Institution, and the wages paid to each. These statements are as follows:

Balance on hand November 1st, 1878	\$10,251 88
Fourth quarterly allowance, less exchange	2,482 52
Annual allowance, less exchange	9,990 00
First quarterly allowance, less exchange	2,657 40
Second quarterly allowance, less exchange	2,657 40
Receipts from workshop	296 85
Third quarterly allowance	1,923 05
Receipts from sales of refuse	12 50
Receipts from sewing-room	14 30
 Total	\$30,285 90
Total warrants paid	19,480 39
 Balance on hand	\$10,805 51

The employes of the Institution consist of—

A superintendent, B. B. Huntoon, with a salary of \$125 a month.

A matron, Mrs. Sarah J. Huntoon, with a salary of \$33½ a month.

A teacher, Miss Nina Griste, with a salary of \$30 a month.

A teacher, Miss Ford Heath, with a salary of \$30 a month.

A teacher, Miss Julia Purnell, with a salary of \$30 a month.

A teacher of sewing, Miss Susan Satterthwaite, with a salary of \$30 a month.

A teacher of handicraft, D. Lasch, with a salary of \$50 a month.

A teacher of music, George Zoeller, with a salary of \$32 a month.

A teacher of music, Mrs. E. Y. Parsons, with a salary of \$24 a month.

A music reader, Miss Rosa Plato, with a salary of \$15 a month.

An assistant pupil, Charles Frederick, with a salary of \$40 a month.

An assistant pupil, Neppie Conway, with a salary of \$15 a month.

An assistant pupil, Nannie P. Brown, with a salary of \$10 a month.

An assistant pupil, Barbara McKinney, with a salary of \$5 a month.

An engineer, Martin McCabe, with a salary of \$10 a month.

A gardener and assistant engineer, Thos. Lucas, with a salary of \$40 a month.

A fireman and assistant gardener, Robert Lucas, with a salary of \$20 a month.

A cook, Hannah Murphy, with a salary of \$18 a month.

An assistant cook, Lizzie Flynn, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A laundress, Sarah McCabe, with a salary of \$15 a month.

An assistant laundress, Mary Curry, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A chambermaid, Kate Salmon, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A chambermaid, Annie Kelly, with a salary of \$14 a month.

A dining-room girl, Kate McGuire, with a salary of \$14 a month.

An assistant dining-room girl, Nelly McGuire, with a salary of \$10 a month.

All of the teachers and assistant pupils, except the teacher of sewing and handicraft, and one of the assistant pupils, are employed for but ten months of the year, the others are employed for the full year.

The details of the work of the Institution you are familiar with. To your constant supervision, your earnest sympathy, your timely counsel, your large appreciation of the needs of the school, and your judgment in supplying them is due the position among the other schools for the blind in the country now occupied by the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind.

Respectfully submitted,

B. B. HUNTOON, *Superintendent.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUILDING AND SUPPLIES.

To the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind:

GENTLEMEN: Your Committee would respectfully report, that during the past year they have attended, as usual, to the purchase of supplies for the Institution, and have regularly transmitted a monthly statement of their accounts to the Governor of the State. A summary of these statements is herewith appended. All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. H. COCHRAN,
T. L. JEFFERSON,
WM. KENDRICK.

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

EXPENDITURES of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind for the year ending October 1, 1879.

	October	November	December	January.	February.	March.
\$452 35	\$466 35	\$478 35	\$471 35	\$461 35	\$461 35	\$461 35
182 00	182 00	183 00	183 00	183 00	183 00	183 00
135 00	37 45	12 85	24 30	136 34	18 15	18 15
185 91	334 63	243 65	199 04	188 73	236 73	236 73
68 25	..	68 25	68 25	..	82 50	82 50
120 85	144 40	149 30	116 55	108 46	127 25	127 25
Meats, including fowls, fish, and game						
Fruits and vegetables, including milk and ice.	87 40	317 40	73 30	73 90	68 10	66 60
Spirituous liquors.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Drugs and medicines and medical service.	31 75	9 00	8 25	12 CO	30 18	21 25
Confectionaries.	..	..	4 25	..	..	..
Fuel and lights.	63 54	77 99	145 54	276 26	35 36	..
Amusements.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Buildings and repairs.	89 50	168 75	76 74	30 85	7 55	38 95
Household and kitchen furniture.	19 03	76 21	811 50	362 50	62 05	7 80
Laundry.	..	..	..	..	..	76 50
Vehicles, tools, and implements for the farm and garden.	1 50	..	..	..	..	..
Expenses on live stock.	8 85	..	..	..	..	..
Labor not included in pay-roll.	39 50	..	..	..	..	..
Books and stationery.	4 CO	..	50 37	..	..	31 09
Farm and garden.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Postage and traveling expenses.	6 50	9 92	..	..	..	..
Materials for workshop.	32 80	59 18	40 38	41 32	..	5 00
Tuning and repairing musical instruments.	18 25	24 75	5 15	..	..	77 12
Water rent.	..	..	74 60	..	..	17 00
Total.	\$1,546 98	\$1,908 03	\$2,464 30	\$1,861 57	\$1,305 82	\$1,450 29

EXPENDITURES—Continued.

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

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	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September	Total.
Pay-roll							
{ Salaries	\$471 35	\$686 35	\$238 35	\$238 35	\$481 35	\$5,145 20	
Wages	183 00	183 00	183 00	183 00	183 00	2,194 00	
Dry goods and clothing.	82 50	12 95	13 35	143 89	102 92	769 78	
Groceries	236 34	191 25	118 38	95 73	157 74	50 08	
Breadstuffs . . . . .	.	.	82 50	.	90 00	138 89	2,327 02
Meats, including fowls, fish, and game. . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	459 75
Fruits and vegetables, including milk and ice.	115 75	124 70	88 36	48 60	51 12	93 35	1,288 70
Spirituous liquors	50 90	69 85	39 20	24 95	3 00	105 20	979 80
Drugs and medicines and medical service.	9 00	15 00	39 70	19 70	.	3 00	198 83
Confectioneries . . . . .	.	.	9 80	.	.	.	14 05
Fuel and lights	111 73	67 40	9 42	8 40	.	47 00	842 64
Amusements . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Buildings and repairs	102 23	77 39	57 75	1,112 19	134 95	108 66	2,005 51
Household and kitchen furniture	13 60	60 00	13 50	5 15	308 75	57 25	1,797 34
Laundry . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	76 50
Vehicles, tools, and implements for the farm and garden . . . . .	.	.	5 90	38 00	.	7 75	94 25
Expenses on live stock	4 80	.	5 00	.	5 30	147 10	171 05
Labor not included in pay roll	30 00	.	14 69	8 50	54 00	.	123 50
Books and stationery . . . . .	.	.	.	.	60 80	10 25	179 70
Farm and garden . . . . .	.	.	13 00	.	.	.	21 70
Postage and traveling expenses	32 45	6 00	6 00	35 00	7 00	16 12	139 99
Materials for workshop	1 25	54 69	.	17 45	7 15	78 7	410 10
Tuning and repairing musical instruments	1 00	.	.	.	13 00	.	79 15
Water rent . . . . .	.	.	87 25	.	.	.	161 85
Total	\$1,445 90	\$1,655 57	\$926 66	\$1,970 41	\$1,417 06	\$1,527 76	\$19,480 41

TERMS OF ADMISSION.

In respect to the forms to go through to secure the admission of a child to the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, it is only required that the child be of so defective vision as to be unable to get an education in the ordinary schools; that it be of good health and sound mind, and within the school ages of six and sixteen; for it must be remembered that the Institution is neither a hospital nor an asylum. If the child is destitute, the fact should be so certified by the County Judge, and in that case clothing will be provided.

The school session begins on the first Monday of September, and closes on the third Friday of June. Pupils will be admitted at any time, but they are much benefited by beginning promptly at the first of the session.

Blind persons over sixteen years of age will be admitted only upon special conditions.

If fuller information is desired, it may be had from the Superintendent, or from any of the Trustees, who will cheerfully correspond with any person wishing to place a blind child in the Institution.

